



**Parish of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Goudhurst TN17 1DN
and St Barnabas Catholic Church, Hawkhurst, Kent TN18 4AH**

Contact : The Presbytery, Beresford Road, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1DN

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** Livestreaming : [Kentchurches.com](https://kentchurches.com)

Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>

Priest in Charge : Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi

Parochial Administrator : Fr Damian Ilodigwe

Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne (Emergency no 07831252314)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 10:30am – 5.00

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9:00am – 9:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart, SATURDAY 5:00pm before Mass
St Barnabas, SUNDAY 8.00am before Mass

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (C)

Week commencing 27th July 2025 Mass Book Page 114

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 18: 20-32

Responsorial Psalm: 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 7c-8 Response: On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord

Second Reading: Colossians 2: 12-14

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia. You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!' Alleluia

Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

Saturday 26th July 5.30pm **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Vigil Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 27th 8:30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	Maureen Allanson for healing
Sunday 27th 10:30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass	Mubi Mutemwa RIP and for healing for his family.
Monday 28th	FATHER'S DAY OFF (Office closed)	
Tuesday 29th 6.00pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Weekday Mass – Saints Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Memorial	
Wednesday 30th 09.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Weekday Mass – Feria	
Thursday 31st	Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, Memorial	
Friday 1st August 9.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass – Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, Memorial	
Saturday 2nd 5.30pm ** Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Seventeenth Sunday (C), Vigil Mass	Repose of the soul of Daisy Fletcher
Sunday 3rd 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 3rd 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass	Healing for Barbara Fletcher and wellbeing for Sonja

REFLECTION, SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (C)

One quality our prayers must possess in order to be effective is persistence, meaning that we must continue to ask and not give up even when the answers apparently do not come or when they are slow in coming; for, in the end, our persistence and perseverance in prayer will secure for us what we seek. This is the point of the parable in today's gospel concerning the man who went to his friend in the middle of the night to request for three loaves to cater for his visitor who had just arrived from a journey.

As Jesus rightly notes in concluding the parable, "even if he will not get up and give his friend what he wanted for the sake of friendship, he will rise up and give it to him because of his importunity". Indeed, when we pester people with our request, they will cave in eventually so that they can have their peace and not have us disturb them ceaselessly.

Pretty much the same point concerning the importance of persistence as a condition for effective prayer, is eloquently illustrated by Abraham's attitude of bargaining with God on behalf of the people in the first reading. Even though, at first sight, Abraham comes across as timid in his manner of approach, the essential point, nonetheless, is that he is never afraid to renew his request each time, seeking to increase his credit. First, he asked whether God would spare the people if 50 just men were found, and then, he asked if forty people would secure the same result and subsequently he asked for thirty, twenty and, finally, ten just men and he got what he wanted.

The overall lesson here is that we should never be tired asking, for the Lord knows what we need and our persistence is evidence that we trust in his generosity and magnanimity to answer us and provide us with what we need. It is not surprising, therefore, that Jesus tells us in the gospel, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be open to you. For, everyone who asks receives and he who seeks finds and to him who knocks it will be opened."

Here is a basic assurance about the absolute efficacy of the power of prayer and we do well to take seriously the words of Jesus; for if we do, we are bound to become people of prayer, so that as often as we are troubled by any situation, person or thing, we would be moved by our confidence in the power of prayer to turn to the Lord in prayer to come to our rescue.

Lord, teach us how to pray and apply the power of prayer in dealing with the challenges of everyday living.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Reading, Acts of the Apostles. Ch 3. If anyone has any questions, please contact Father Damian by email or phone.
2. The Funeral Mass for Rowena Bennett will be held on 5th August at 12.00 at St Laurence Church, Hawkhurst.
3. The Missionary Society for St Paul will be visiting us at all Masses on 2nd/3rd of August.
4. **Youth retreat**- on Saturday 13 September, 11am- 4pm, for 13-17 year olds including talks, prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Location St. George's Cathedral Primary School. Details at [Youth Retreat - 13 September: Archdiocese of Southwark](#)
5. **Grief in Loss Retreat** at Aylesford on 12 October. For details see [Grief in Loss Retreat 2025: Archdiocese of Southwark](#)
6. The Southwark Catholic Youth Service runs a **Young Adult Mass** at 12.00 pm at St George's Cathedral, followed by a social at Amigo Hall. The next dates are; 3 August; 7 September; 5 October; 2 November; 7 December
7. The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria
8. Please will you inform Father of any parishioners who are sick and would like a visit, and if they would like their names to appear in our Newsletter for our prayers.
9. **Mass Intentions** – In the Catholic Church, a Mass intention refers to a specific prayer request or intention for which a priest offers the Mass. This practice allows individuals to dedicate the graces of the Mass to a particular need, whether it be for the well-being of a living person, the repose of a deceased soul, or to express gratitude.
10. **Office news!** Please call Lizzi if you need any help from the Parish Tel: 07831252314.



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family, Maureen Allanson, Lorraine Smith, Marion Weeks, Geaft Weeks, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis, Jasmin Cameron and Vilma Fernandez.

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of Bill Elliott, Florence Stacey, William Bennett, David John Dee, Pat Day, Joanna McClean, Ros Reardon, Mirabelle Kelly, Nick Rourke, Penny Scott-Watson, Helena Lesniewska, Christian Le Boulrier, Monica Scrowston, Lily Wise, John Sienesi, Tony Coleman Gerry Cleary, Mary Elizabeth (Daisy) Fletcher.
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, May they rest in Peace.

ONLINE DONATIONS

BANK DETAILS,

NatWest Bank: RCAS Sacred Heart Goudhurst, Account No: 59004576 Sort Code: 60 06 18

Gift Aiders please add your envelope number and name as a reference